

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 07647 280958Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----090676 281005Z /21  
P 280920Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4269

S E C R E T TEHRAN 7647

EXDIS

FOR AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON FROM SULLIVAN

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PLOS  
SUBJ: LOS: COMPULSORY DISPUTE SETTLEMENT: MILITARY  
EXEMPTION AND IRAN

REF STATE 202485

1. THANKS FOR REFTEL INFORMING ME THAT DECISION TO SEEK MORE INFORMATION ON IRANIAN POSITION RE COMPULSORY DISPUTE SETTLEMENT IN LOS WAS INDEED COORDINATED WITH YOU BEFORE ACTION WAS TAKEN.

2. I AM STILL CONCERNED, HOWEVER, THAT ADMIRAL MORRIS, OR OTHERS ON YOUR STAFF MAY NOT YET UNDERSTAND THAT THEY CAN NOT RPT NOT INITIATE MESSAGES ON POLICY MATTERS THROUGH NAVY CHANNELS TO INDIVIDUAL NAVY OFFICERS IN THIS MISSION. IT IS NOT A CASE OF "REGRETTING THAT ADMIRAL CONOLLY TOOK UP THE ISSUE WITH HIS IRANIAN COUNTERPART WITHOUT CONSULTING" ME. ADMIRAL CONOLLY SHOULD NEVER HAVE RECEIVED THE MESSAGE AND SHOULD NOT RPT NOT RECEIVE SIMILAR INSTRUCTIONS IN THE FUTURE. MESSAGES ON THIS SUBJECT SHOULD BE SENT TO THE EMBASSY AND WE WILL DECIDE WHO WILL EXECUTE THEM.

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3. IN THIS INSTANCE, AS TEHRAN 7228 POINT OUT, THE MATTER WAS RAISED WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY BY MY DCM. WE HAVE WHAT WE REGARD AS ADEQUATE ASSURANCES FROM THE RESPONSIBLE IRANIAN OFFICER THAT "HE FAVORED THE CONCEPT OF EXEMPTION OF WARSHIPS OR SHIPS OWNED OR OPERATED BY THE STATE FROM THE COMPULSORY DISPUTE SETTLEMENT PROVISION OF THE DRAFT AS HE ALSO FAVORED EXEMPTION OF MARITIME TERRITORY DISPUTES".

4. IF, IN FUTURE DISCUSSIONS WITH IRANIAN DELEGATION, THESE  
ASSURANCES PROVE INADEQUATE, PLEASE CABLE THE EMBASSY AND WE  
WILL TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION.

5. I WILL ADDRESS THE QUESTION OF IRANIAN ATTITUDES TOWARDS  
DEEP SEABED ISSUES IN A SEPARATE MESSAGE AFTER FURTHER STUDY  
OF THE PROBLEMS INVOLVED.  
SULLIVAN

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, LAW OF THE SEA  
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**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009